

News Release

Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge



1547 Route 565, Sussex, NJ 07461

973/702-7266 Fax: 973/702-7286

For More Information, please call:
Fran Stephenson – ext. 10

Wildlife Refuge Proposes Changes to Hunt Fees - Open for Public Comment

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service's Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge is proposing to change the hunt fee structure for the management hunts conducted on Refuge property and is seeking public input.

Currently, for each hunting season, a \$20.00 non-refundable permit application fee is charged for deer, turkey, or migratory hunting on the Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge in Sussex, NJ. Hunters possessing the Federal Senior Pass are charged \$10.00 per permit. There is no charge for youth hunters. Disabled hunters possessing the Federal Access Pass are charged \$10.00 per permit.

The proposed permit fee structure is as follows: hunting permits on the Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge during each respective season will cost \$30.00. Youth hunters ages 10 – 16 years are not subject to fees, but they still need to submit an application and are subject to all NJ DEP State and Federal hunting regulations. Federal Access Pass holders and Federal Senior Pass holders will be discounted to \$17.50. Hunters will also have the option to purchase all three season permits with one application fee of \$75.00 or discounted cost of \$40.00 for Federal Senior Pass holders or Federal Access Pass holders.

The Refuge is adopting this fee structure to off-set the increasing costs of administering the hunt program. Wallkill River has not increased the hunt application fees since 2006 but continues to add new lands and hunt opportunities to the hunt program. This new permit process will be administered using the on-line service of a third-party vendor and all hunter applicants must have a NJ hunt license and apply on-line. The fee for this service is already included in the costs outlined above. These proposed changes would be implemented beginning in August 2014.

Public comments regarding this fee structure must be received by 4:00pm on April 25, 2014. You may submit comments by email to fran_stephenson@fws.gov or in writing to:

USFWS
Attn: Hunt Fees
1547 Route 565
Sussex, NJ 07461

Any questions you may have regarding this proposed change in fees may be directed to Fran Stephenson, Park Ranger, at (973) 702-7266 extension 10.